

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a mammal comprising peripherally administering to said mammal in need thereof a non-toxic amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect.

Claim 29 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 28 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 30 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 29 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 31 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 28, 29, or 30 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 32 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 28, 29 or 30 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 28, 29, or 30 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a human subject comprising peripherally administering to said human subject in need thereof a non-toxic amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect.

Claim 35 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 36 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 37 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, 35, or 36 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 38 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, 35, or 36 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 39 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 34, 35, or 36 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 40 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a mammal comprising peripherally administering to said mammal in need thereof an amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect without a toxic increase in hemoglobin concentration or hematocrit.

Claim 41 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 40 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 42 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 40 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 43 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 40, 41, or 42 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 44 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 40, 41, or 42 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 45 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 40, 41, or 42 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 46 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a human subject comprising peripherally administering to said human subject in need thereof an amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect without a toxic increase in hemoglobin concentration or hematocrit.

Claim 47 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 46 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 48 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 47 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 49 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 46, 47, or 48 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 50 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 46, 47, or 48 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 51 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 46, 47, or 48 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 52 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a mammal comprising peripherally administering to said mammal in need thereof an amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect without an increase in hematocrit in said mammal.

Claim 53 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 52 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 54 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 53 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 55 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 52, 53, or 54 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 56 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 52, 53, or 54 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 57 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 52, 53, or 54 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 58 (Currently amended): A method for treating cerebral ischemia in a human subject comprising peripherally administering to said human subject in need thereof an amount of erythropoietin effective to exert a neuroprotective effect without an increase in hematocrit in said human subject.

Claim 59 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 58 wherein said administering is carried out in a vascular fashion.

Claim 60 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 58 wherein said vascular administration is intravenous.

Claim 61 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 58, 59, or 60 wherein said erythropoietin is administered for the treatment of stroke.

Claim 62 (Previously presented): The method of Claim 58, 59, or 60 wherein said erythropoietin is administered at a dosage of 50,000 to 100,000 Units per administration or per day.

Claim 63 (Currently amended): The method of Claim 58, 59, or 60 wherein said erythropoietin is native erythropoietin, recombinant human erythropoietin or animal erythropoietin ~~or a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 64 (New): The method of Claim 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 36, 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, 48, 52, 53, 54, 58, 59, or 60 wherein said erythropoietin is an erythropoietin derivative.